WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1.   A layout system, comprising:

a layout device to select published information from a plurality of pieces of published information and to make a layout for the selected published information, the layout device performing a layout process by storing the selected published information in information storage regions arranged in a layout region;

the information storage regions and the published information having respectively added thereto identification information to make the information storage regions and the published information correspond to each other, and the published information having added thereto arrangement control information to control the arrangement in the information storage regions; and

the layout device being adapted to store the published information in the information storage regions on the basis of the arrangement control information when there are no information storage regions or published information suitable to store the published information in the information storage regions on the basis of the identification information.

2.   A layout system, comprising:

a published information storage device to store a plurality of pieces of published information; and

a layout device to select the published information from the published information storage device and to make a layout for the selected published information, the layout device performing a layout process by storing the selected published information in information storage regions arranged in a layout region;

the information storage regions and the published information having respectively added thereto identification information to make the information storage regions and the published information correspond to each other, and the published information having added thereto arrangement control information to control the arrangement in the information storage regions; and

the layout device being adapted to determine whether there are an information storage region and published information having added thereto identical or related identification information by comparing the identification information added to the published information with that added to the information storage regions, and then, when it is determined that there are an information storage region and published information having added thereto identical or related identification information, the layout device being adapted to store relevant published information in the relevant information storage region, and when it

is determined that there are no information storage regions and published information having added thereto identical or related identification information, the layout device being adapted to store the published information in the information storage regions on the basis of arrangement control information added to the relevant published information.

3. A layout system, comprising:

a layout device to select published information from a plurality of pieces of published information and to make a layout for the selected published information, the layout device performing a layout process by storing the selected published information in information storage regions arranged in a layout region;

the information storage regions and the published information having respectively added thereto identification information to make the information storage regions and the published information correspond to each other, and arrangement control information to control the arrangement in the information storage regions; and

the layout device being adapted to store the published information in the information storage regions on the basis of the arrangement control information when there are no information storage regions or published information suitable to store the published information in the information storage regions on the basis of the identification information.

4. A layout system, comprising:

a published information storage device to store a plurality of pieces of published information; and

a layout device to select the published information from the published information storage device and to make a layout for the selected published information, the layout device performing a layout process by storing the selected published information in information storage regions arranged in a layout region;

the information storage regions and the published information having respectively added thereto identification information to make the information storage regions and the published information correspond to each other, and arrangement control information to control the arrangement in the information storage regions; and

the layout device being adapted to determine whether there are an information storage region and published information having added thereto identical or related identification information by comparing the identification information added to the published information with that added to the information storage regions, and then, when it is determined that there are an information storage region and published information having added thereto identical or identification information, the layout device being adapted to store

relevant published information in the relevant information storage region, and when it is determined that there are no information storage regions and published information having added thereto identical or related identification information, the layout device being adapted to store the published information in the information storage region on the basis of the arrangement control information added to the information storage region and the published information.

5. The layout system according to Claim 4, the arrangement control information being settable to either state 1 where the published information should be stored in an information storage region having added thereto identification information identical or related thereto, or state 2 where the published information may be stored in an information storage region other than the one having added thereto identification information identical or related thereto.

6. The layout system according to Claim 5, when there is no published information having added thereto identification information identical or related to that added to an information storage region as a target to be stored, in the published information storage device, and when arrangement control information added to the information storage region is set to state 2, the layout device being adapted to select published information not having added thereto the identification information from the published information storage device, and to store the selected published information in the information storage region as a target to be stored.

7. The layout system according to Claim 6, when there is no published information not having added thereto identification information, in the published information storage device, the layout device being adapted to select published information having the arrangement control information set to the state 2 from the published information storage device and to store in the information storage region as a target to be stored the selected published information.

8. The layout system according to Claim 5, when there is no information storage region having added thereto identification information identical or related to that added to the published information as a target to be stored, in the layout region, and when the arrangement control information added to the published information is set to the state 2, the layout device being adapted to select an information storage region not having added thereto the identification information from the layout region and to store in the selected information storage region the published information as a target to be stored.

9. The layout system according to Claim 8, when there are no information storage regions not having added thereto the identification information, in the layout region, the layout device being adapted to select an information storage region having the arrangement control information set to the state 2 from the layout region, and to store in the selected information storage region the published information as a target to be stored.

10. The layout system according to Claim 4, the arrangement control information being able to set the similarity of identification information which is allowable when the published information is stored in an information storage region having added thereto identification information identical or related to the published information.

11. The layout system according to Claim 10, when there is no published information having added thereto identification information identical or related to that added to an information storage region as a target to be stored, in the published information storage device, the layout device being adapted to select from the published information storage device published information having added thereto the identification information whose similarity to the identification information added to the information storage region as a target to be stored is greater than that of the arrangement control information added to the information storage region as a target to be stored, and to store the selected published information in the information storage region as a target to be stored.

12. The layout system according to Claim 10, when there are no information storage regions having added thereto identification information identical or related to that added to the published information as a target to be stored, in the layout region, the layout device being adapted to select from the layout region the information storage region having added thereto the identification information whose similarity to the identification information added to the published information as a target to be stored is greater than that of the arrangement control information added to the published information as a target to be stored, and to store in the selected information storage region the published information as a target to be stored.

13. The layout system according to Claim 10, the similarity being a value according to the distance between the pieces of identification information in a word system when the meanings of words given as the identification information are systemized.

14. The layout system according to Claim 4, when there is, in the layout region, an information storage region where the published information cannot be otherwise stored, the layout device being adapted to delete the relevant information storage region.

15.   The layout system according to Claim 4, when there is, in the layout region, an information storage region where the published information cannot be otherwise stored, the layout device being adapted to store margin-filling information in the relevant information storage region.

16.   The layout system according to Claim 4, further comprising an identification-information adding device to add the identification information to the published information,

the identification-information adding device being adapted to analyze the contents of the published information and to add the identification information to the published information on the basis of the analysis results.

17.   The layout system according to Claim 4, the published information having added thereto a plurality of pieces of the identification information having priority, and

when identification information having a predetermined level of priority, among the identification information added to the published information is taken as a target and it is determined that there is no published information having added thereto identification information identical or related to that added to an information storage region as a target to be stored, in the published information storage device, the layout device being adapted to take as target identification information having a priority one level lower than the predetermined level of priority, among the identification information added to the published information, and to select from the published information storage device the published information having added thereto identification information identical or related to that added to the information storage region as a target to be stored.

18.   The layout system according to Claim 4, the information storage region having added thereto a plurality of pieces of the identification information having priority, and

when identification information having a predetermined level of priority, among the identification information added to the information storage regions is taken as a target and it is determined that there are no information storage regions having added thereto identification information identical or related to that added to published information as a target to be stored, in the layout region, the layout device being adapted to take as target identification information having a priority one level lower than the predetermined level of priority, among the identification information added to the information storage regions, and to select from the layout region an information storage region having added thereto

identification information identical or related to that added to the published information as a target to be stored.

19. The layout system according to Claim 4, further comprising a user information storage device to store user information regarding a user, the layout device being adapted to select published information from the published information storage device on the basis of the user information in the user information storage device.

20. The layout system according to Claim 4, further comprising a user information storage device to store user information regarding a user, the layout device being adapted to make a layout for the published information on the basis of the user information in the user information storage device.

21. A layout program, comprising:

a layout program for selecting published information from a plurality of pieces of published information and for making a layout for the selected published information, the layout program performing a layout process by storing the selected published information in information storage regions arranged in a layout region;

the information storage regions and published information having respectively added thereto identification information to make the information storage regions and the published information correspond to each other, and the published information having added thereto arrangement control information to control the arrangement in the information storage regions; and

when there is no information storage region or published information suitable to store the published information in the information storage regions on the basis of the identification information, the layout program being adapted to store the published information in the information storage regions on the basis of the arrangement control information.

22. A layout program, comprising:

a published information storage program for storing a plurality of pieces of published information; and

a layout program for selecting the published information from the published information storage program and for making a layout for the selected published information, the layout program performing a layout process by storing the selected published information in information storage regions arranged in a layout region;

the information storage regions and the published information having respectively added thereto identification information to make the information storage regions

and the published information correspond to each other, and the published information having added thereto arrangement control information to control the arrangement in the information storage regions; and

the layout program being adapted to determine whether there are an information storage region and published information having added thereto identical or related identification information by comparing the identification information added to the published information with that added to the information storage regions, and then, when there are an information storage region and published information having added thereto identical or related identification information, the layout program being adapted to store relevant published information in the relevant information storage region, and when there is no information storage region and published information having added thereto identical or related identification information, the layout program being adapted to store the published information in the information storage regions on the basis of arrangement control information added to the relevant published information.

23.　　A layout program, comprising:

a layout program for selecting published information from a plurality of pieces of published information and for making a layout for the selected published information, the layout program performing a layout process by storing the selected published information in information storage regions arranged in a layout region;

the information storage regions and the published information having respectively added thereto identification information to make the information storage regions and the published information correspond to each other, and arrangement control information to control the arrangement in the information storage regions; and

when there is no information storage region or published information suitable to store the published information in the information storage regions on the basis of the identification information, the layout program being adapted to store the published information in the information storage regions on the basis of the arrangement control information.

24.　　A layout program, comprising:

a published information storage program for storing a plurality of pieces of published information; and

a layout program for selecting the published information from the published information storage program and for making a layout for the selected published information,

the layout program performing a layout process by storing the selected published information in information storage regions arranged in a layout region;

the information storage regions and the published information having respectively added thereto identification information to make the information storage regions and the published information correspond to each other, and arrangement control information to control the arrangement in the information storage regions; and

the layout program being adapted to determine whether there are an information storage region and published information having added thereto identical or related identification information by comparing the identification information added to the published information with that added to the information storage regions, and then, when there are an information storage region and published information having added thereto identical or related identification information, the layout program being adapted to store relevant published information in the relevant information storage region, and when there is no information storage region and published information having added thereto identical or related identification information, the layout program being adapted to store the published information in the information storage regions on the basis of arrangement control information added to the relevant information storage regions and published information.

25.   A layout method, comprising:

selecting published information from a plurality of pieces of published information; and

making a layout for the selected published information, the layout being performed by storing the selected published information in information storage regions arranged in a layout region;

the information storage regions and the published information having respectively added thereto identification information to make the information storage regions and the published information correspond to each other, and the published information having added thereto arrangement control information to control the arrangement in the information storage regions; and

when there is no information storage region or published information suitable to store the published information in the information storage regions on the basis of the identification information, the layout being adapted to store the published information in the information storage region on the basis of the arrangement control information.

26.   A layout method, comprising:

selecting published information from a published information storage device to store a plurality of pieces of published information; and

making a layout for the selected published information, the layout being performed by storing the selected published information in the information storage regions arranged in a layout region;

the information storage regions and the published information having respectively added thereto identification information to make the information storage regions and the published information correspond to each other, and the published information having added thereto arrangement control information to control the arrangement in the information storage regions; and

the layout determining whether there are an information storage region and published information having added thereto identical or related identification information by comparing the identification information added to the published information with that added to the information storage regions, and then, when there are an information storage region and published information having added thereto identical or related identification information, the layout being adapted to store the published information in the information storage regions, and when there is no information storage region and published information having added thereto identical or related identification information, the layout being adapted to store the published information in the information storage regions on the basis of arrangement control information added to the relevant published information.

27.   A layout method, comprising:

selecting published information from a plurality of pieces of published information; and

making a layout for the selected published information, the layout being performed by storing the selected published information in the information storage regions arranged in a layout region;

the information storage regions and the published information having respectively added thereto identification information to make the information storage regions and the published information correspond to each other, and arrangement control information to control the arrangement in the information storage regions; and

when there is no information storage region and published information suitable to store the published information in the information storage regions on the basis the identification information, the layout being adapted to store the published information in the information storage region on the basis of the arrangement control information.

28.   A layout method, comprising:

selecting published information from a published information storage device to store a plurality of pieces of published information; and

making a layout for the selected published information, the layout being performed by storing the selected published information in the information storage regions arranged in a layout region;

the information storage regions and the published information having respectively added thereto identification information to make the information storage regions and the published information correspond to each other, and arrangement control information to control the arrangement in the information storage regions; and

the layout determining whether there are an information storage region and published information having added thereto identical or related identification information by comparing the identification information added to the published information with that added to the information storage regions, and then, when there are an information storage region and published information having added thereto identical or related identification information, the layout being adapted to store the published information in the information storage regions, and when there is no information storage region and published information having added thereto identical or related identification information, the layout being adapted to store the published information in the information storage regions on the basis of the arrangement control information added to the information storage region and the published information.